



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Events and Tourism
Committee of**

Westgate-On Sea Town Council

on 27th March 2018

Held at

**Town Council Offices, 11 Ethelbert Square, Westgate-
On-Sea, Kent CT8 8SR**

Present	Cllr Nightingale (Chairman), Cllr Cornford, Cllr King, Cllr Pennington and Cllr M Scott	
Also in attendance	Mrs Gill Gray (Town Clerk), 1 member of the public	
	To receive apologies for absence Cllr Page sent her apologies.	
	Declarations of Interest There were none.	
	Minutes It was moved by Cllr Pennington and seconded by Cllr Cornford and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 23rd January 2018 be signed and approved as a true record of the meeting.	
	Chairman's Announcements Chairman advised that there were no announcements to report.	
	Public Participation Session There were no requests received by the Clerk for public participation at this meeting.	
	Westgate in Bloom Jackie from Youngs Nurseries addressed the meeting and gave an overview in relation to the budget and funding position for the hanging baskets and planters in Westgate. The discussions focussed on whether the Town Council were in a position to compete in the South East in Bloom this year and it was agreed that there was not the budget available for this year. Another factor that influenced the decision was the time constraints that would be faced to try and provide a decent display in the town. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should try and ascertain the budget and funding position with TDC and the potential for any input financially towards the provision for floral arrangements in the Town. Cllr King suggested that the Finance and General Purposes Committee should look at the budgets for 2018/19 and try	Clerk

	<p>to identify any funds available for floral displays in the Town. It was moved by Cllr King and seconded by Cllr Pennington and RESOLVED that the Town Clerk should research sponsorship opportunities and the application to South East in Bloom should take place in autumn 2018 with a view to competing in 2019 for Westgate on Sea.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
	<p>Events Update Report</p> <p>1. Pancake Races</p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone who helped and contributed to ensuring that the Pancake Races event was a success this year. There was a discussion around the issue of Stagecoach buses not being aware of the road closure; the Town Clerk advised that she had contacted Stagecoach following the event and received an apology as there had been a breakdown in communication which resulted in not all the bus drivers being aware of the road closure on Station Road, Westgate. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should write a formal letter to Stagecoach on behalf of the Council to ensure that this situation was not repeated next year.</p> <p>2. Punch and Judy Shows 2018</p> <p>The Town Clerk advised that a quotation had been received from the provider for Punch and Judy entertainment last year and the price for 2018 was £990.00 plus VAT. Cllr King advised that the Council should acquire at least two other quotations before appointing a contractor; it was agreed that the Town Clerk should obtain this information for the next Finance and General Purposes Committee in April.</p> <p>There followed a discussion about additional items for the event such as craft fair, small rides for children and bouncy castle. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should contact a couple of fair providers to gain accurate quotations, the initial research implied that the cost was likely to be in the region of £500.00 per day. The Town Clerk added that there was a possibility that funding may be available from KCC Members Grants Scheme. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should apply to KCC Combined Member Grants Scheme with a funding application for the event.</p> <p>3. WW1 Beacon Event</p> <p>The Chairman confirmed that a temporary beacon has been purchased by the Town Council and the supplier would advise a delivery date in due course. The Town Clerk confirmed that she had attempted to contact the Air Cadets and the Fire School at Manston and was awaiting a response. The Chairman confirmed that there</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>was the possibility that the Sea Cadets may be available as well. The Chairman added that the Birchington Silver Band could be approached and it was agreed that the Town Clerk should try and initiate contact to gauge availability for the event. It was discussed that the local British Legion should also be invited to the event. The provision of refreshments for the event was also discussed and there was the potential to escalate this to a community event for the Town. The Town Clerk was requested to invite and approach local scouts, boys/girls brigade and guides.</p> <p>4. Remembrance Parade The Chairman advised that sooner contact was made with TDC to arrange the road closure for the event the better; it was agreed that the Town Clerk should apply to TDC and ascertain if the provision for a Remembrance Parade road closure was still provided with no charge. The Town Clerk agreed to purchase sand bags for the event as there were issues last year with windy conditions and road signs.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
	<p>Westgate-on-Sea Day Event 2018 The Chairman explained the background for the proposal for the Westgate on Sea Day Event. Cllr King added that it was preferable to start with a small event initially and progress and grow in the future at a sustainable rate. The Chairman added that Cllr Page had met with Dr Dawn Crouch and this was a positive step towards realising an event in earnest for 2019.</p>	
	<p>Tourism Update Report</p> <p>1. Welcome to Westgate Signs There were discussions surrounding the provision of heritage signs for the Town, particularly at the traffic lights junction on St Mildreds Road; there was the potential for raising the profile of Westgate and it was felt that local businesses would welcome this. A prime space identified for advertising was the railway station wall at the back of Paul's Bar; it was agreed that the Town Clerk should try to identify who owned this area and make contact with them. Also ascertain if permission would be required from Network Rail.</p> <p>2. Open Top Vintage Bus The Open Top Vintage Bus route was discussed and it was felt disappointing that it did not include Westgate on the route. The Town Clerk advised that there was a Vintage Bus day taking place on 29 April and this route included an hour stop at St Mildred's Bay, Westgate</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

	which was welcomed. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should make contact with Stagecoach and seek an explanation why the route could not incorporate the town of Westgate in the future.	Clerk
	Next Meeting The next meeting is 22nd May 2018	
	Meeting Closed at 20.10pm	

Signed.....

Date.....29/5/18 .